

## NEW ARGONNE SITE ACCESS REQUIREMENTS TAKE EFFECT SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

This announcement covers new site access requirements for external users of the Center for Nanoscale Materials (CNM). An external user is any user who is not an employee of Argonne National Laboratory. Internal users should follow the laboratory employee guidelines.

Argonne continues to implement necessary safety measures to protect our employees and users from the negative impacts of COVID-19 on our personal health and on our scientific mission. Last week, following new [White House Executive Orders](#) and the full FDA approval for the Pfizer vaccine, Argonne adopted a new policy that requires all laboratory employees, including internal CNM users, to verify that they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and put in place new protocols for external users and visitors to access laboratory sites.

Starting September 20, external users of the CNM will be required to attest to their COVID-19 vaccination status and, if not fully vaccinated, provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test result that is less than 72 hours old before they can enter any Argonne site.

For external users of CNM who are conducting experiments on site:

- Beginning September 20, you will need to report to the Argonne Information Center the first time you visit Argonne. At that time, you must attest to your vaccination status using a [form](#) provided to you, and, if not fully vaccinated against COVID-19, show proof of a negative COVID-19 test that is less than 72 hours old.
- If you **attest that you are fully vaccinated**, new users will receive a new user badge and a separate prox card. Returning users can retain their current badge and prox card. In most cases, badges are valid for six months or for the duration of their approved user registration, whichever occurs first.
- If you are not fully vaccinated and **present proof of a negative COVID-19 test result**, you will receive a gate pass valid for up to three days, based on the date of your test result. You will also receive a prox card to retain as long as you plan to be a user at the CNM facility. If your facility-approved visit duration exceeds the expiration date on your gate pass, you will need to take another COVID-19 test and provide proof of a negative result at the Argonne Information Center to renew your gate pass. Rapid COVID-19 testing for users is not available on site at Argonne; you must use an external provider.
- Prior to entry, external CNM users must be listed as an on-site user on an approved User Work Approval (UWA), and they must have scheduled their visit in advance by submitting a Visit Request through their proposal dashboard. Please contact the CNM User Office ([cnm\\_useroffice@anl.gov](mailto:cnm_useroffice@anl.gov)) for more information.
- The Argonne Information Center is open 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday. Users who are fully vaccinated must check in during these times the first time they visit Argonne starting September 20. Users who are not fully vaccinated and will provide a negative COVID-19 test result must check in during these times to obtain their first and any subsequent gate passes.
- Make sure to have your attestation form and, if applicable, negative test result with you at all times while at Argonne.

Argonne will accept printed test results from either a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test or a rapid antigen test performed by a healthcare provider no more than 72 hours prior to entry. Results from at-home testing kits will not be accepted.

Please note that while Argonne's policy toward vaccinations is changing, our operational status is not. Argonne and CNM remain in limited operations. Masks continue to be required for everyone, regardless of vaccination status, and six-foot social distancing remains in effect.

Failure by any user to comply with the protocols above will be treated as a safety violation and will be escalated through applicable division management with notification to Worker Safety and Health representatives.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve, so does Argonne's approach to keeping each other safe and healthy so that we can carry out our critical research. Please make sure to verify the [latest processes](#) for site access before making plans to travel to Argonne. We appreciate your continued cooperation.